

## Devotional and Selections

### "BREAD CORN IS BRUISED."

By Julia H. Johnston.

Bread corn is bruised that it may be life-giving.

The crushing stone

Must grind it first, ere it be food for living,

Itself alone.

Snow-white the meal, but not till bruised and broken

The golden grain;

And thus, hereby, a parable is spoken

Of loss and gain.

Not pearls, nor sparkling stones with radiance clearest,

Are crushed and bruised;

No gems in monarch's diadem the dearest

For food are used.

That only which has ministry thus vital,

Is torn and ground,

And afterward the measureless requital

In this is found.

Life, health and growth, and power for highest daring,

Renewed and fed,

Are debtors to the corn, its life-germ sharing

In wholesome bread.

Take heed of joy, nor shrink from blow and bruising,

O broken heart,

In feeding those whom God will soon be using

You have a part.

—The Interior.

### WHO IS GIPSY SMITH?

By G. Campbell Morgan.

My first acquaintance with Gipsy Smith was made in 1886, when I entered upon work in Hull, which he had originated. Going at the invitation of the committee then in oversight of the work at Wilberforce Hall to conduct services for fourteen days, I remained thirteen months, and thus had opportunity to observe the results of his labors. I found very many whole-hearted followers of Jesus Christ in dead earnest about the conversion of others. These, most of them, had been brought to God under the preaching of this man. Many of them remain in the churches of the town unto this day, and retain their first love to Christ and devotion for His cause. During this time I often met Gipsy, and from the first my heart was joined to his as a brother beloved, and I count him still as my close personal friend and a highly valued fellow-laborer in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ.

During these years I have noted with great joy his remarkable development, until today he stands at the very front of those who are doing the work of the evangelist. His early life consisted of certain facts which were against the chances of his success, and yet, taking a higher viewpoint of consideration, they were in his favor.

His lack of educational advantages would have seemed likely to bar his progress. He recognized this, and set himself from the first with a devotion and earnestness which were magnificent to remedy the defect. He has been a hard worker and hard reader, and this has found its reward in the fact that today he has acquired a style and delivery that is full of force and beauty. One of our great London dailies said of him recently that he is one of the finest exponents of the

possibilities of Anglo-Saxon speech since the days of John Bright.

It is possible to hear him again and again, as I have done, without detecting a flaw in his grammar or pronunciation; and one is filled with wonder at his wonderful triumph in this direction.

In his case the very early lack has been the stimulus of constant effort, and there has been no arrest of development consequent upon the mistaken notion—alas! too common among more favored men—that he had his education long ago.

Greatly in his favor is the fact that he was a child of nature, nurtured near to her heart. When that Spirit who breatheth where He listeth brought him into living contact with Christ the gain of this early environment was manifest.

To know him today is to catch the sweet, healthy freshness of woods and flowers and dear old mother earth, and to breathe the fragrance of the life lived far from the stifling atmosphere of great cities. I never talk with him without taking in a wholesome quantity of ozone. His most remarkable growth has been spiritual. In tone and temper, and those fine qualities of spirit which are the fairest productions of Christian life he has steadily advanced, and today more than ever is a child of God in outward conduct and inward character.

Though thus a child of the country, his mission has been pre-eminently that of a messenger of the gospel to great cities. It is one of the most heart-stirring and spirit-reviving sights I know to watch a dense mass of city folk, toilers in the factories, clerks from the offices, professional men, and those of culture and leisure, listen to him as he pleads with tender eloquence the cause of the Master.

Gipsy Smith is an evangelist by right of a "gift," bestowed by the Spirit of God as certainly as there ever was such in the history of the church. In his case, moreover, we have a conspicuous example of the fact that the Spirit bestows such gifts on those by natural endowment fitted to receive and use them. There is no conflict between a man as God made him and the work of grace in him when he is utterly abandoned to the will of God.

London, England.

### USEFUL PIETY.

It is related of the great Cromwell that when a friend said to him, "You, sir, know well the usefulness of piety," he promptly replied, "I know something better—the piety of usefulness." The piety of usefulness is the kind that the world needs. The piety that sits apart in caves or monasteries while there are wrongs to be righted and work to be done; the piety that is concerned about phylacteries and ceremonies while the Christ is being crucified outside the city gate; the piety that occupies its pew only on Sunday and feels a comfortable security in "belonging to the Church," while it allows others to bear the burdens and make all the sacrifices, is not the sort that is bringing the millennium nearer.

Every moment of resistance to temptation is a victory.